

§ 655.205 Recruitment period.

(a) If the RA determines that the temporary labor certification application meets the requirements of §§ 655.201 through 655.203, the RA shall promptly notify the employer in writing, with copies to the State agency and local office. The notice shall inform the employer and the State agency of the specific efforts which will be expected from them during the following weeks to carry out the assurances contained in § 655.203 with respect to the recruitment of U.S. workers. The notice shall require that the job order be placed both into intrastate clearance and into interstate clearance to such States as the RA shall determine to be potential sources of U.S. workers.

(b) Thereafter, the RA, under the direction of the ETA national office and with the assistance of other RAs with respect to areas outside the region, shall provide overall direction to the employer and the State agency with respect to the recruitment of U.S. workers.

(c) By the 60th day of the recruitment period, or 20 days before the date of need specified in the application, whichever is later, the RA, when making a determination of the availability of U.S. workers, shall also make a determination as to whether the employer has satisfied the recruitment assurances in § 655.203. If the RA concludes that the employer has not satisfied the requirement for recruitment of U.S. workers, the RA shall deny the temporary labor certification, and shall immediately notify the employer in writing with a copy to the State agency and local office. The notice shall contain the statements specified in § 655.204(d).

(d) If the employer timely requests an expedited administrative-judicial review before a DOL Hearing Officer, the procedures in § 655.212 shall be followed.

§ 655.206 Determinations of U.S. worker availability and adverse effect on U.S. workers.

(a) If the RA, in accordance with § 655.205 has determined that the employer has complied with the recruitment assurances, the RA, by 60th day

of the recruitment period, or 20 days before the date of need specified in the application, whichever is later, shall grant the temporary labor certification for enough aliens to fill the employer's job opportunities for which U.S. workers are not available. In making this determination the RA shall consider as available for a job opportunity any U.S. worker who has made a firm commitment to work for the employer, including those workers committed by other authorized persons such as farm labor contractors and family heads; such a firm commitment shall be considered to have been made not only by workers who have signed work contracts with the employer, but also by those whom the RA determines are very likely to sign such a work contract. The RA shall also count as available any U.S. worker who has applied to the employer (or on whose behalf an application has been made), but who was rejected by the employer for other than lawful job-related reasons unless the RA determines that:

(1) Enough qualified U.S. workers have been found to fill all the employer's job opportunities; or

(2) The employer, since the time of the initial determination under § 655.204, has adversely affected U.S. workers by offering to, or agreeing to provide to, alien workers better wages, working conditions, or benefits (or by offering or agreeing to impose on alien workers less obligations and restrictions) than that offered to U.S. workers.

(b) (1) Temporary labor certifications shall be considered subject to the conditions and assurances made during the application process. Temporary labor certifications shall be for a limited duration such as for "the 1978 apple harvest season" or "until November 1, 1978", and they shall never be for more than eleven months. They shall be limited to the employer's specific job opportunities; therefore, they may not be transferred from one employer to another.

(2) If an association of employers is itself the employer, as defined in § 655.200, certifications shall be made to the association and may be used for